

Leicester,
July 26/72

Dear friend Garrison;

43 Yr. note of yesterday brings me the first intelligence I have of the death of our dear Richard W. Webb; the letter from his son Richd. to us not having yet come to hand. I thank you very much for writing to us ^{so promptly} of it. Until quite within a few months I have thought it possible we might see him again in America. His going inflicts a loss on very many of us; but, to those of us who are getting towards the verge of life, these losses seem, & are, less & less irreparable, - are more natural in their character, and the time of forming anew the broken connexion appears not so far off. After I rec'd. Richard's note of July 5th, I felt that any day might bring us the news of his departure; and I broke the seal, last Monday, of one of July 11th without a doubt that it told of it; but he was still alive & conscious, tho' barely able to hear a letter read. It seems he continued 3 days longer. The funeral must have occurred about the time I was writing to you from Lancaster, N.H.

I do not know about writing for the "Chrⁿ. Register", though I would willingly offer any tribute & testimony on my power to our dear Webb's worth. There, or in some other paper, perhaps I may. I trust you will make mention of him, - perhaps in the "Independent".

— Now I am sorry for having got your extract concerning Mr. Greeley into print; but I waited a week to receive a reply from you, and, as nothing came, I concluded you had no objection. And when I was at Jefferson, a week ago today, I told William that I wanted to use that portion of your letter, & that I had written to you to that effect. He said, "I don't think father would have any objection". Still I waited, until I thought I might ^{safely} ~~fully~~ assume that such was the case. So it has got published, - in yesterday's "Daily Spy", Worcester, - whence I see it is copied into to-day's "Advertiser" of Boston. I don't think it can interfere with any more extended article; but nevertheless

I regret having sent it to the papers, as it
is not just ~~as~~ what you would have chosen.
Its few words about Mr. Sumner are also valuable,
whose attitude is a most extraordinary and
reprehensible one.

William told me they were hoping for
a visit from you at Jefferson soon. I
hope you can get a comfortable room there,
and will spend some little time with them.
It is a rare place for pure air & delightful
views. I was pleased to see him appearing
better every way, — while the steadiness &
cheerfulness of his mind, and the complete
absence of anything of murmuring & complaint,
are beyond all words of praise and are
beautiful to see. I was glad to find,
too, that Ella was so free from her headaches
there; & all the children seemed well.

With much love to yr wife, I am
Very truly Yours, S. May,
We are all as usual, & desire remembrance.

